

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-26 are allowed over prior art.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1-12 and 23-26, the prior art fails to teach a dose-modulated irradiating system for an x-ray tube with a cathode including filament that generates electrons which are focused into a beam and an anode that generates x-rays responsive to the electron beam, the dose-modulated irradiating system further including at least one electrostatic control electrode arranged to electrostatically reduce an intensity of the electron beam and a biasing means for applying a time-varying electrical bias to the electrostatic control electrode to vary the intensity of the electron beam as claimed in independent claim 1.

Regarding claims 13-22, the prior art fails to teach a method for dose-modulating an output of an x-ray tube that includes a cathode having a filament that generates electrons which are focused into a beam, an anode that generates x-rays responsive to the electron beam, and an electrostatic control electrode that electrostatically adjusts an intensity of the electron beam, the method including applying a time-varying electrical bias to the electrostatic control electrode to produce a first time-varying intensity modulation of the electron beam as claimed in independent claim 13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoon Song whose telephone number is (571) 272-2494. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 7 PM, Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Glick can be reached on (571) 272 - 2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hoon Song/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2882